

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4243

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

USMISSION USUN

USMISSION NATO

CINCEUR

USODCO SOUTH

USDOCOALSE

USNMR SHAPE

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TAGS: PINT, PFOR, NATO, TU, GR, CY, US

SUBJECT: PRESS REACTION TO VISIT OF STAFFDEL BRYEN AND
RICHARDSON

1. ANKARA VISIT OF SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE
(SFRC) STAFFDEL BRYEN AND RICHARDSON PROMPTED A FLURRY
OF SPECULATION IN JULY 14 TURKISH PRESS, WHICH ALMOST
UNIFORMLY IDENTIFIED THE VISITORS AS "SENATORS." THE
ARTICLE GENERALLY LINKED THE VISIT OF THE TWO WITH DELAYING
THE ENTRY OF THE SURVEY SHIP SISMIK I INTO THE AEGEAN,
LAND CONCESSIONS IN CYPRUS AND/OR THE IMPACT OF A
FURTHER DELAY OR THE DISAPPROVAL OF THE TURKISH-AMERICAN
DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENT (DCA) OR
U.S.-TURKISH AND TURKISH-NATO RELATIONS. MOST PAPERS
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REPORTED THAT THE STAFFDEL MET WITH FOREIGN MINISTER

CAGLAYANGIL, MFA SECGEN ELEKDAG, SENATOR INAN AND
REPUBLICAN PEOPLE'S PARTY (RPP) CHAIRMAN ECEVIT. SEVERAL
PAPERS REPORTED THAT THE TWO WOULD MEET JULY 14 WITH
PRIMIN DEMIREL, DEP PRIMIN ERBAKAN AND MINDEFENSE MELEN.

2. MASS CIRCULATION GUNAYDIN REPORTED THAT THE "SENATORS"
WOULD PREPARE A REPORT FOR THE SFRC BEFORE THE DCA COMES
UP FOR CONSIDERATION. COLUMIST TEOMAN EREL STATED THAT
THE DEMIREL GOVERNMENT HAS ATTEMPTED TO HIDE THE ATTEMPTS
OF THE US TO EXERT PRESSURE ON THE GOT, BUT THE
"ADMISSION OF THE PRESENCE OF THE TWO IMPORTANT SENATORS
TWENTY-FOUR HOURS AFTER THEIR ARRIVAL...CONFIRMED THE
INTERVENTIONS OF THE US IN CONNECTION WITH THE AEGEAN
DAYS AFTER IT HAPPED."

3. LEFTIST POLITIKA REPORTED THAT THE TWO VISITORS,
"DESCRIBED AS THE 'BRAINS' OF THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS
COMMITTEE," PROPOSED "MODERATION ON SEISMIC RESEARCH IN
THE AEGEAN AND THAT TURKEY PREPARE (ON A MAP) A PLAN ON
TERRITORIAL PARTITION FOR THE CYPRUS NEGOTIATIONS." THE
TWO OFFICIALS, WHO ACCORDING TO POLITIKA BROUGHT US
PROPOSALS FOR THE AEGEAN AND CYPRUS, REPORTEDLY COUNSELED
TURKISH OFFICIALS THAT "EVEN IF AEGEAN RESEARCH IS
DELAYED, THE RIGHTS OF TURKEY IN THE AEGEAN WILL REMAIN
VALID."

4. CONSERVATIVE ORTA DOGU STRESSED THE NATO CONNECTION
AND THE DCA. ACCORDING TO ORTA DOGU, THE STAFFDEL WAS
ATTEMPTING TO ASSESS THE IMPACT OF EITHER A REJECTION OF,
OR FURTHER DELAY IN THE CONSIDERATION OF, THE DCA ON
U.S.-TURKISH, TURKISH-NATO AND TURKISH-GREEK RELATIONS.
THE ARTICLE REPORTED THAT TURKISH DIPLOMATIC SOURCES TOLD
THE STAFFDEL THAT A DELAY OR REJECTION WOULD RESULT IN
TURKEY WITHDRAWING FROM THE MILITARY WING OF NATO. THE
ARTICLE SPECULATED THAT THE PURPOSE OF THE STAFFDEL VISIT
WAS EITHER TO "BUY TIME" FOR THE U.S. OR THAT THE U.S.
"COULD ALSO BE PLANNING TO SACRIFICE EITHER GREECE OR
TURKEY FOR THE SAKE OF NATO." THE ARTICLE REPORTED
THAT THE STAFFDEL WOULD ALSO VISIT ATHENS, NICOSIA,
BRUSSELS, NAPLES AND LONDON FOR FURTHER CONSULTATIONS
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BEFORE PREPARING THEIR REPORT.
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